



CALL FOR PROPOSALS
CORRIGENDUM (SECTIONS 3 AND 17)

GSA/GRANT/04/2019

Filling the gaps and emerging E-GNSS receivers technologies

The present call for proposals is composed of a set of Submission Documents, which form an integral part of this call:

A1-A6 Forms
B1-B2 Forms
C1 Form

The terms set out in the call for proposals document shall take precedence over those in the other parts of the Submission Documents

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INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO READ CAREFULLY THE BELOW INSTRUCTIONS IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT APPLICATIONS ARE COMPLETE AND COMPLIANT WITH THE INSTRUCTIONS WHEN SUBMITTED.

1. CONTEXT

1.1. Introduction

The mission of the European GNSS Agency (GSA) is to support European Union objectives and achieve the highest return on the European GNSS (E-GNSS) investment represented by the EGNOS and Galileo programmes, in terms of benefits to users and economic growth and competitiveness.

Galileo is the European global navigation system. It is a civil system under civil control, intended to provide navigation services to users, including reliable services for specific user communities. The Galileo constellation has already 26 satellites in orbit and is operational. With Galileo satellites working together with other constellations, there are more GNSS satellites available for positioning, navigation and timing (PNT). Already at this stage, the users are able to exploit a significant improvement in terms of signal availability, especially in harsh environments, as urban canyons, where chances to receive signals from GNSS satellites are limited due to the restricted visibility of the sky. Galileo provides a precise, reliable and robust open service, enabling other desirable properties such as better resistance against multipath. In addition, the Galileo will provide unique differentiators compared to other GNSS providers such as:

- Open Service-Navigation Message Authentication (OS-NMA): The free-of charge Galileo OS will be the first to broadcast authentication data through its Navigation Message Authentication, providing users with information about the received signal's authenticity and impeding the spoofing of the GNSS signal transmitted over Open Service E1; High Accuracy Service (HAS): A service complementing the OS by providing an additional navigation signal transmitted over Open Service E6B with higher positioning accuracy;
- Commercial Service Authentication (CAS): It will provide improved signal robustness due to its encrypted authentication service transmitted over Open Service E6C for professional users;
- Search and Rescue Service (SAR): Europe's contribution to COSPAS-SARSAT, an international satellite-based search and rescue distress alert detection system. The Galileo SAR service is comprised of two components:
 - an automatic forward link distress alert
 - a unique return link alert that informs the sender that their message has been received

The GNSS market and technology is rapidly evolving, following on the one hand the push of increasingly sophisticated technologies and employing of complementary techniques and, on the other hand, the pull from the users who have growing demands in terms of positioning accuracy, continuity, availability and interoperability with other systems. Additionally, the price of the GNSS user equipment is decreasing.

The Fundamental Elements scheme is funding the development of E-GNSS-enabled chipsets, receivers, antennas and related technology for dedicated user groups. The on-going projects cover the distinctive GNSS markets as aviation, maritime, road, rail, LBS, agriculture, geomatics (surveying and mapping) and critical infrastructure (timing and synchronisation).

The objectives of the Fundamental Elements scheme are:

- Facilitate the adoption of the European GNSS Systems, building on their innovative services and differentiators;
- Improve the competitiveness of EU industry;

- Address user needs in priority market segments;
- Maximise benefits to European citizens.

In this context, the GSA is launching a call for proposals for the development of:

1. Either close-to-market GNSS receivers and the associated technologies that are not funded by other Fundamental Elements projects to fill technology gaps

Or

2. Cutting-edge, emerging GNSS receiver technologies that are at the forefront of current R&D and may have or not an immediate adoption in market-ready products.

1.2. Background of the call

This call is based on the Delegation Agreement concluded between the European Union, represented by the European Commission, and the European GNSS Agency (GSA) on the Exploitation Phase of the Galileo Programme signed on 2 October 2014.

In this framework, within the Fundamental Element Programme, GSA has already launched or planned to launch the following projects:

- *Development of E-GNSS engine for liability- and payment-critical multi-applications in road transportation*: on-going project focusing on fostering the development of an innovative liability- and payment- critical E-GNSS based engine in the road segment, both in terms of user adoption and economic benefits with respect to exploit the E-GNSS differentiators. Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/02/2015.
- *Development of high-end professional receivers and corresponding antennas*: on-going project advancing the GNSS technology for professional applications, investing in EGNSS differentiators targeting high-precision, ultra-performant, cost-competitive professional receivers and the corresponding antennas. Ref. no GSA/GRANT/01/2016.
- *Development, supply and testing of a Galileo open service authentication user terminal (OS-NMA) for the GSA*: on-going project developing a number of prototypes of an Open Service Navigation Message Authentication User Terminal meeting Smart (Digital) Tachograph2 application's requirements at a sufficient level of maturity to carry out a demonstration in a representative environment and to assess the prototypes performance under real conditions. Ref. no. GSA/OP/23/16.
- *Development of an Advanced RAIM Multi-constellation Receiver*: on-going project focused on development, testing and assessing the performance of an Advanced RAIM (Receiver Autonomous Integrity Monitoring) receiver's prototype, following the guidelines defined by the ARAIM TSG (Technical Sub Group). Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/01/2017.
- *Development of MEOSAR Beacons*: on-going project aiming to secure the availability of commercial products from European manufacturers of MEOSAR Beacons compatible with the Return Link Service capabilities implemented by Galileo. Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/02/2017.
- *Development of SBAS-enabled Shipborne Receivers*: on-going project with the objective to develop and test SBAS-enabled Shipborne Receivers according to the draft Guidelines, for the implementation of SBAS, submitted to RTCM. Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/03/2017.
- *Development of a Galileo-based timing receiver for critical infrastructures*: on-going project developing, testing and assessing a Galileo-based time receiver prototype suitable to operate in critical

infrastructures such as telecommunication, power distribution networks and finance, providing accurate and highly robust timing. Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/05/2017.

- *Development of GNSS receiver technologies for Premium and General mass market*: on-going projects developing, testing and demonstrating at least one HW component and/or algorithm filling a technology gap for mass-market GNSS chipsets and devices. The HW component(s) and/or algorithms shall leverage Galileo differentiators and shall be cost efficient, commercial grade, compliant with specific mass-market constraints and ready to be integrated into a mass-market device. Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/08/2017.
- *Aviation DFMC SBAS Receiver Prototype*: on-going project, designing, developing and testing in flight a DFMC Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS) user terminal for the aviation SoL service, augmenting GPS and Galileo core constellations and to implement and validate the completeness of the DFMC SBAS receiver standards developed in EUROCAE (Minimum Operational Performance Standard (MOPS)) and ICAO (Standard and Recommended Practices (SARPs)). Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/07/2017.
- *Enhanced Receiver for autonomous driving/navigation*: on-going project developing an innovative positioning On-Board-Unit (OBU) suitable for fully automated driving, integrating a GNSS receiver together with additional sensors to enable the target applications' performance. Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/03/2018.
- *Multi-frequency Multipurpose Antenna for Galileo*: on-going project developing, testing and assessing advanced multi-frequency, multi-constellation antennas dedicated for selected applications in mass-market and / or professional user groups. Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/01/2018.
- *Enhanced GNSS Receiver/User Terminal*: on-going project designing, developing, testing and demonstrating a close-to-market enhanced receiver/GNSS user terminal suitable for one or more applications¹ that shall be fully compatible with the latest Galileo Open Service Signal In Space Interface Control Document including I/NAV improvements and/or shall implement Open Service Navigation Message Authentication. Ref. no. GSA/GRANT/03/2019.
- *Development of an Advanced Interference Detection and Robustness Capabilities System*: purpose of this planned procurement is to establish a contract for design, development, production of the IT infrastructure of a worldwide advanced interference detection and robustness capability software as a service accessible from the Internet and a follow up service provision allowing end users to upload data, which shall integrate advanced processing capabilities able to identify the occurrence of a GNSS interference event. Ref. Prior information notice no. 2018/S 237-540379.
- *Shipborne double frequency multi-constellation receiver (E1/E5)*: purpose of this planned project is to develop and test a dual frequency E1/E5 shipborne multi-constellation receiver based on Galileo implementing the algorithms to use the OS NMA to support Resilient PNT in maritime navigation. Ref. Galileo Grant Plan 2019.
- *Development of receiver technologies enabling hybridisation of RTK/PPP solutions for mass-market*: purpose of this planned project is to design, develop, test and demonstrate the GNSS algorithm(s) and technology (-ies) suitable for mass-market receivers based, as minimum, on Galileo HAS/PPP and leveraging complementary with RTK techniques enabling ubiquitous very high accurate and fast converging PVT solution. Ref. Galileo Grant Plan 2019.
- *Development of a drone-borne double frequency Galileo receiver*: purpose of this planned project is to develop a low-cost Galileo-enabled dual frequency drone-borne receiver, its demonstration and testing in a drone platform in operational mode in different scenarios for application defined within the Open and/or Specific category. Ref. Galileo Grant Plan 2019.

More detailed information on the listed projects are available in the GSA webpage under "Opportunities" in the section "Grants" or "Procurements".

The GSA extensive Market¹ and User Technology Report² available on line can be consulted by the applicant for an in-depth analysis and monitoring of individual sectors and applications. In these reports, the market trends beyond the 2025 with the on-going technology evolution are included and can be used as guideline for the proposal preparation.

In addition to the above-mentioned projects, the GSA is launching a call for proposals in accordance with the Galileo Grants Plan for 2019 (published on the GSA website: <http://www.gsa.europa.eu/gsa/grants>) to develop close to market technology not yet funded by other FE projects to fill technology gaps or disruptive, emerging E-GNSS receiver technologies.

2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE CALL

2.1. Objective of the call for proposals

Applicants are requested to submit proposals for fulfilling one of the two objectives stated below:

- (1) Development, integration, testing and demonstration of hardware components and/or software/firmware algorithms filling technology gaps for GNSS devices, receivers and/or antennas:
 - a. The components and/or algorithms shall be innovative, compliant with specific market constraints, ready to be integrated into a close-to-market device and meet the applications requirements.
 - b. The components and/or algorithms developed shall leverage Galileo differentiators.

The Fundamental programme, so far is already covering a wide range of market and key applications. At the same time, when the topics were defined, the need to remain flexible was identified to anticipate potential gaps that might have occurred over time. This is the essence of the call.

Therefore, the developed technology shall not overlap but complement any of the past, ongoing and planned projects funded by the GSA and described in Section 1.2.

The applicant shall develop GNSS relevant technologies in line with current market trends and needs in the short term (2020-2025). The GSA market and user technology monitoring analysis and evolution is included in the GNSS Market Report and User Technology Report.

New demands from existing and emerging new applications will increase the demand of PNT innovative technologies. Such innovative PNT technologies may range, for example, between techniques to enable ubiquitous and precise positioning and/or precise and robust timing using wide bandwidth E-GNSS signals (e.g. dual and triple frequency), satellite-based real-time Precise Point Positioning (PPP) or PPP-RTK products and techniques for miniaturisation, space navigation solutions and techniques to improve resilience to interference, etc. The developed technology shall be integrated and demonstrated in a GNSS device fitting one or more applications within the GNSS market.

¹ <https://www.gsa.europa.eu/market/market-report>

² <https://www.gsa.europa.eu/european-gnss/gnss-market/gnss-user-technology-report>

The target Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) shall be, at least, 7 and the end-products shall be developed targeting a competitive cost in the respective markets³.

Similar to potential gaps in terms of market described for objective (1), the technology is evolving and new solutions materialise on the horizon. Such forward looking and technology driven solutions for the long term shall be captured under the second objective of the call:

- (2) Development, integration, testing and demonstration of hardware components and/or software based on disruptive, future-looking technologies for GNSS devices, receivers and/or antennas:
 - a. The components shall be focused on R&D excellence going beyond the current state-of-the-art and current market needs and not necessarily focused on a specific application/segment, identifying only potential areas of applications of the technologies proposed/developed.
 - b. The components and/or algorithms developed shall leverage Galileo differentiators.

Non-exhaustive examples of emerging areas of applications, extracted by the GSA Market and User Technology Report, are:

- Advanced robotics
- Automation
- Artificial Intelligence
- Machine learning
- Safety and liability critical transport
- etc.

In this context, considering also the dynamic nature of the GNSS market, the applicant shall develop emerging technology anticipating future needs beyond 2026.

The target Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) of the developed technology shall be, at least, 4⁴.

Note: For both objectives, the applicant is not necessarily requested to develop the whole device nor the underlying GNSS chipset/receiver, as it is allowed to build on existing technology and propose innovation going beyond that.

Purchase of test equipment, such as simulators, anechoic chambers, will not be funded by this grant. The European Commission (EC) will make available support from the Joint Research Centre (JRC) that has the equipment to perform such testing.

2.2. Areas of activities of the call for proposals

As a first step, the applicant is requested to select objective no. 1 or objective no. 2 and identify the target application(s) or potential areas of applications enabled by the developed technology. Afterwards, depending on the actual objective, the applicant will propose a development in line with the scope of work.

In order to reach the objective of this call, applicants are expected to conduct the following activities:

³ Applicable Technology Readiness Level (TRL) for this call is the one defined by the European Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl_en.pdf

⁴ Applicable Technology Readiness Level (TRL) for this call is the one defined by the European Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl_en.pdf

Task 1: Technology and application selection

The scope of this task is to identify the technology the applicant proposes specifying if it is under objective one or two.

For objective no. 1, the applicant shall describe, as first step, the technology to develop clearly justifying the choice in terms of technology gaps to fulfil and shall, as second step, identify, at least, one application highlighting the benefits that the implementation of the solution proposed will bring to the user in the short term. For the identified application(s) the applicant shall define and quantify the user requirements (for example in terms of accuracy, reliability, robustness, specific environmental conditions, battery consumption, size, etc.). The user requirements shall use as inputs and be cross-checked against the GNSS User Requirements Documents for the applicable market segment published by the GSA⁵.

For objective no. 2, the applicant shall describe, as first step, the technology to develop. As second step, whereas for the objective no.1 a concrete application(s) shall be defined, for objective no.2, it is enough to identify an area of applications highlighting and clearly justifying the benefits that the implementation of the solution proposed will bring to the market in the long term.

For both objectives, a description of the methodology to select the application(s)/area of applications shall be part of the proposal, justifying the choices made (in terms of market sizing, revenues to be earned, technological breakthrough, commonality between different applications, etc.) and describing which are the features that would be developed. The description of the methodology shall be evaluated against the award criteria (see section 10).

Task 2: Design and development

Based on the previous task, for both objectives the applicant shall design and develop the solution(s) (E-EGNSS receiver, antenna or technology) considering the application(s) / area of applications selected and highlighting the E-GNSS differentiators.

If relevant, the applicant shall specify, also in function of the validation and testing activities (as per task 3), the number of prototypes to be developed during the project.

A description of the methodology for the prototype requirements identification, design definition and development shall be part of the proposal and shall be evaluated against the award criteria (see section 10).

Task 3: Test, verification and validation

For objective no. 1 the applicant shall perform the testing, verification and validation activities of the solution(s) proposed, assessing its performance in operational environment.

For objective no. 2 the applicant shall perform the testing, verification and validation activities of the solution(s) proposed, assessing its performance in laboratory.

Besides the testing as part of the project implementation, the applicant has the option to test the solution(s) performance in the JRC laboratory.

⁵ <https://www.gsc-europa.eu/electronic-library/gsa-publications#userneeds>

Applicants may consult the GSC's GSTI portal⁶ for the list of relevant testing and simulation tools available in the EU.

A description of the methodology for testing and validation of the prototype shall be part of the proposal and shall be evaluated against the award criteria (see section 10)

Task 4: Exploitation and dissemination

For objective no.1 the applicant shall define and implement a business plan including the detailed go-to-market approach ensuring the adoption of the developed solution(s) by the relevant stakeholders (e.g. receiver manufacturers, smartphone manufacturers, etc.) beyond the project duration.

For objective no.2 the applicant shall develop a long-term market entry strategy developing emerging GNSS receiver technologies with no immediate adoption in market.

A preliminary business plan (for objective no.1) or a preliminary market entry strategy (for objective no.2) shall be submitted together with the proposal and shall be evaluated against the award criteria (see section 10). The preliminary business plan/market entry strategy shall include relevant information for the Intellectual Property Management.

The beneficiaries shall disseminate the results of the project. Throughout the implementation of the action, the beneficiaries shall allocate proper resources to disseminate the project, when requested by the GSA.

In particular, the beneficiaries shall take measures to disseminate the achievements of the project among relevant stakeholders in the appropriate phases of the project. The dissemination plan shall define the strategy to engage those stakeholders with the aim of showcasing the project, fostering the innovation created in the frame of the action and creating market awareness of the project results.

The preliminary dissemination plan shall be evaluated against the award criteria and shall be assessed against the award criteria (see section 10).

The applicants shall submit at least four (4) technical papers to international conferences. In addition, the applicants shall include a solution(s) demonstration involving all the main stakeholders and key players in order to disseminate the results of the project. Other possible dissemination means are specialised magazines and sector press, presentations, leaflets and brochures, public event(s), promotional video(s), websites, social networks, etc.

2.3. Core Activities

For the purpose of this call, the following *activities* (belonging to one or more of the four tasks described above in section 2.2) are considered **core to the project**:

- Management and coordination.
- User requirements definition (for objective no.1).
- Design and development plan
- Testing and validation plan.
- Dissemination.

⁶ <https://www.gsa.europa.eu/newsroom/news/developers-are-luck-gsc-simulation-tools-database-refreshed>

2.4. Milestones Plan

The project shall foresee intermediate milestones reflecting as far as possible the workflow described below:

1. **Kick-Off Meeting (KOM):** The primary objectives of the meeting are:
 - i. Present the review procedure and organisation
 - ii. Formally authorise the start of the activity.
2. **Solution(s) Requirement Review (SRR)/Preliminary Design Review (PDR):** The primary objective of this review is to consolidate and approve the solution's requirements specifications and to validate a preliminary design to satisfy those requirements (the possibility of separating the milestone into two, SRR and PDR, is left open to the applicants depending on their proposed solution);
3. **Critical Design Review (CDR):** The primary objective of this review is the completion of the solution's design and architecture to authorise the start of the development. Exit criteria for this review shall at least include the approval of the detailed design in accordance with the requirements and suitable for the implementation phase, other than the closure of any open action resulting from the PDR stage;
4. **Test Readiness Review (TRR):** The primary objective of this review is to assess that the developed product is ready to start the testing phase.
5. **Final Review (FR):** The primary objective of this review is to verify that the functional and performance testing phase is performed, in compliance with the requirements and the target performances. The milestone shall take place at the end of the project with the acceptance of the product.

The applicant may propose in their offer an adjusted Milestones plan (including deliverable submission planning) to be approved by the GSA at a Kick-off meeting.

2.5. Deliverables list

The contractor is expected to submit deliverables including the IPRs, documents, software and hardware. In addition, a progress report has to be delivered periodically every three months of the execution of the project.

The following planning for the submission of the deliverables is suggested:

Deliverable	KOM	SRR/ PDR	CDR	TRR	FR
1. Project Management Plan (including Risk Management)	X	X	X	X	X
2. Application Selection Document (including User Requirements for objective n.1)		X	X	X	X
3. Solution(s) Requirements Specification		X	X	X	X
4. Preliminary Architecture of the prototype Document			X	X	X
5. Detailed Architecture and Design Justification File of the prototype			X	X	X
6. Test Plan and Procedures				X	X
7. Tests Report					X

Deliverable	KOM	SRR/ PDR	CDR	TRR	FR
8. Device prototypes ⁷ and relevant operation manual					X
9. Demonstration of the prototype(s) under real conditions					X
10. Demonstration kit, as described below in this section					X
11. Dissemination Plan (preliminary version to be provided in the proposal)	X		X	X	X
12. Business Plan (preliminary version to be provided in the proposal)	X		X	X	X
13. Dissemination Document and multi-media					X
14. Demonstration training material					X

Table 1: Planning for the submission of the deliverables

The applicant shall provide in the proposal a methodology for application(s) (for objective no.1) or area of applications (for objective no.2) selection requirements identification, design, development, testing, verification and validation of the service.

The beneficiaries shall provide to the GSA a fully functional demonstrator including prototype(s), additional hardware/software, permissions for use -for demonstration purposes-, and any related documentation and shall also train GSA staff in order to make the GSA able to reproduce the demo after the completion of the project at the GSA or other EU institutions, bodies or agencies premises.

The GSA reserves the right to timely inform (e.g. at the Kick-Off meeting) the beneficiary about the place of delivery of deliverables (8) and (10) (either the GSA or other EU institutions).

2.6. Outputs expected from the implementation of activities

The proposals shall aim at achieving the objective of the action. All the deliverables (as listed in section 2.5), will be used by the EU and the GSA in accordance with Articles I.9 and II.9 of the grant agreement.

The beneficiaries will have the option to access a dedicated business support via the GSA “Integration” platform that will support the go-to-market strategy of the project’s results, at no additional costs.

3. TIMETABLE

Tentative start-up date for the action is **Q3 2020**, unless the applicants can demonstrate the need to start the action before the agreement is signed; in such cases, applicants must request and receive the GSA’s written authorisation prior to the start of the action.

Indicative duration of the action under (each) grant agreement: **2 (two) years**

⁷ The objective of the action is to provide the GSA with 2 prototypes of the fully-fledged device. However the applicant is requested to assess the need to produce additional units to properly support further development activities (e.g. multiple activities executed in parallel, back-up units, etc.)

This call for proposals shall be conducted according to the following indicative timetable:

	Stages	Date/time or indicative period
a)	Publication of the call	24 September 2019
b)	Deadline for request for clarifications	18 December 2019
c)	Publication of the clarifications	20 December 2019
d)	Deadline for submitting applications	20 January 2020
e)	Evaluation period	January to May 2020
f)	Information to applicants on the outcome of the evaluation	June 2020
g)	Signature of the grant agreement	July to August 2020

4. EU FINANCING

Maximum budget allocated for EU financing under this action: **EUR 5,000,000.00**
Indicative number of projects: up to 6 projects
Indicative EU financing amount for each of the project: up to EUR 1,000,000.00
Maximum EU financing rate of eligible costs: **70%**

Publication of the call does not guarantee the availability of funds for the above action and it places no obligation on the GSA to award grants to any applicant.

The GSA reserves the right to award a grant of less than the amount requested by the applicant. In such a case, the applicant(s) will be asked either to increase its co-financing, propose other co-financing means or to decrease the total costs without altering the substance of the proposal. Grants will not be awarded for more than the amount requested.

5. ROLES AND TASKS WITHIN THE CONSORTIUM

5.1. Entities involved in the activities subject to the proposal

The proposal shall clearly identify the entities (legal and/or natural persons) to be involved in the activities subject to the proposal, being the applicant⁸(s) (including **coordinator and co-applicants**) as well as any third parties, such as **affiliated entities and subcontractors** and their contributions to the implementation of the proposal under the grant agreement. Parties' participation in the project will be subject to the requirements as laid down in this Call for Proposals.

5.2. Single Applicant

In case the proposal is submitted by a single applicant, it will be considered as mono-beneficiary if the proposal is successful.

⁸ For the sake of clarity, the term "**applicant**", referred to in this call, shall encompass single applicants, co-applicants and coordinator as appropriate.

5.3. Coordinator

If the proposal is submitted by a group of several co-applicants they will form a consortium and will become consortium members. The consortium members (multi-beneficiaries) should choose amongst them a lead organisation, referred to as the "Coordinator".

The coordinator submits the application on behalf of the consortium and will be the intermediary for all communication between the co-beneficiaries and the GSA as well as responsible for supplying all documents and information to the GSA in due time upon request. The coordinator will also be responsible for distribution of payments received from the GSA to the co-beneficiaries.

5.4. Co-applicant(s)

Each co-applicant will be considered as co-beneficiary if the proposal is successful. Before signature of the grant agreement, all applicants within the consortium shall agree upon appropriate arrangements between themselves for the proper performance of the specific actions. Co-applicants are required to analyse specific liability provisions as provided in the draft grant agreement.

Co-applicants shall immediately inform the coordinator of any event liable to substantially affect or delay the implementation of the action. The coordinator will inform the GSA in accordance with the grant agreement and will ensure compliance with the requirements on ownership and usage rights of results and any pre-existing rights towards the GSA and the European Union as specified in the draft grant agreement.

When a grant is awarded, the co-beneficiaries shall forward to the coordinator in a timely manner all the data needed to draw up the reports, the financial statements and other documentation required by the grant agreement.

The coordinator and all co-applicants forming the consortium must satisfy the eligibility criteria.

5.5. Affiliated entities

Legal persons having a legal or capital link with the applicant(s), which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation, may take part in the action as affiliated entities, and may declare eligible costs. For that purpose, the applicant(s) shall identify such affiliated entities in the application forms and in the proposal.

Each affiliated entity shall have to comply with the same eligibility and non-exclusion criteria as those applying to the applicant(s) and submit the same forms, including the forms proving the financial and operational capacity (see section 9.1 and 9.2 below).

Affiliated entities can be:

- a) Several legal persons forming together one legal person or 'sole beneficiary' which may, or may not, have been specifically established for carrying out the action (e.g. groupings, joint ventures).
- b) Legal persons having a legal or capital link with a beneficiary or co-beneficiary, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation (e.g. networks, federations, trade-unions).

5.6. Subcontractors

Subcontracting⁹ refers to contracts concluded for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the action.

The beneficiaries remain solely responsible for the implementation of the action. Subcontracting is not allowed among the beneficiaries in the project. Please note that the beneficiaries must have the necessary capacity to perform the project themselves.

Subcontracting of specific tasks or activities (i.e. the externalisation) which form part of the action as described in the proposal must satisfy the conditions applicable to any implementation contract (as specified above) and in addition to them the following conditions:

- a. it may only cover the implementation of a limited part of the action and **shall in no case cover core activities as described in Section 2.3;**
- b. it must be justified having regard to the nature of the action and what is necessary for its implementation;
- c. it must be clearly stated in the proposal.

The applicants must have the operational capacity to perform the work proposed in their proposal. This operational capacity will be assessed at the time of the evaluation of the proposal (please refer to section 9.2 below).

In exceptional cases, where the implementation of the action or the technical proposal (B1-B2 Forms) can be done more efficiently and effectively through the award of subcontracts (implementation contracts), the beneficiaries must award the contract to the bid offering best value for money or the lowest price (as appropriate), avoiding conflicts of interests and retain the relevant documentation for the event of an audit. The sub-contract shall be awarded in accordance with the conditions set in the grant agreement. Entities acting in their capacity of contracting authorities in the meaning of Directive 2014/24/EC¹⁰ or contracting entities in the meaning of Directive 2014/25/EC¹¹ shall abide by the applicable national public procurement rules.

The costs of subcontracting can be eligible under the conditions indicated in the grant agreement (see also point 2.8 in section 12.2 below).

During the implementation of the action any justification for new subcontracting provided by the beneficiaries needs to be pre-endorsed by the GSA and eventually the subcontracting shall require GSA's approval. Approval may be considered granted in cases where the subcontracting is already fully described in the proposal so accepted by the GSA, given that it will then be implemented as specified in the signed grant agreement.

The tasks concerned must be set out in the description of the action (i.e. form B1 and Annex I to the grant agreement) and the estimated costs of subcontracting must be clearly identifiable in the estimated budget (Form C1 and Annex III to the Grant Agreement). However, approval of subcontracting by the GSA (whether at the time of the evaluation of proposal or later during the implementation of the action) does not automatically mean that the related costs will be considered eligible and reimbursed. The costs will need to comply with the eligibility criteria set up in the grant agreement in order for them to be reimbursed.

⁹ Article 205 of the Financial Regulation

¹⁰ Directive 2014/24/EC on public procurement and repealing Directive 2001/18/EC.

¹¹ Directive 2014/25/EC on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC.

Any modifications on an ad hoc basis while the action is underway must be presented for ex-ante approval of the GSA and for major items will require an amendment to the grant agreement otherwise will not be reimbursed.

It is not necessary to have already selected subcontractors at the time the proposal is submitted. However, cost of subcontractors not selected in accordance with the rules referred to in this Section will not be eligible.

6. ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE ADMISSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Applications must comply with the following conditions in order to be admissible:

- Applications must be sent no later than the deadline for submitting applications referred to in section 17,
- Applications must be submitted in writing, using the submission set described in section 17,
- Applications must be drafted in one of the EU official languages with a preference to English. For further information please refer to Section 17 below,
- Applications must respect the maximum rate for EU co-financing¹².

In this context, any project directly or indirectly contrary to EU policy or against public health, human rights or against citizen's security will be rejected.

7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

7.1. Eligible applicants

- Applications by legal persons established¹³ in and/or natural person(s) who is national of one of the following countries are eligible:
 - The EU Member States
 - Switzerland, Norway
- Applicants must correspond to the definition of any of the following target organisations: **active in the development, integration and/or manufacturing of GNSS antennas, components, receivers and/or expert in the field of GNSS Research and development (R&D)**
- Corporate bodies must be properly constituted and registered under their applicable law. When an applicant does not have legal personality, a physical person must be designated to provide the legal responsibility.

¹² Proposals exceeding the applicable maximum EU co-financing rate for this call (see section 4) shall not be considered further and will be rejected.

¹³ 'Established' should be understood as having a registered office, central administration or principal place of business in one of these countries.

The single applicant (see ref. to section 5.2), the coordinator (see ref. to section 5.3) and all co-applicants (see ref. to section 5.4) forming the applicant consortium, as well as the affiliated entities (see ref. to section 5.5) shall satisfy the same eligibility criteria.

For British applicants: Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the purposes of the evaluation and for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the evaluation period, without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will not meet the eligibility criteria as defined above. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that British applicants continue to be eligible, you will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article II.17.3.1(a) of the multi-beneficiary grant agreement or Article II.17.2.1(a) of the mono-beneficiary grant agreement.

7.2. Multi-beneficiary proposal – Structure of the consortium

In the case of multi-applicants, the coordinator will submit the proposal on behalf of the consortium. It shall be the intermediary for all communication between the co-applicant and the GSA and responsible for supplying all documents and information to the GSA in due time upon request.

The proposal consequently must be submitted by a consortium composed of at least two (2) entities out of which:

- **The coordinator shall be a legal person;**
- **The co-applicant(s) can be either legal and/or natural person(s).**

All co-applicants in the same consortium shall agree upon appropriate arrangements (internal cooperation agreements) among themselves for the proper performance of the action.

The grant agreement shall be signed by the coordinator of the successful consortium, provided that a mandate (Annex IV of the grant agreement) has been provided to it by each co-applicant. Such mandate shall be annexed.

Legal persons having a legal or capital link with applicants, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation, may take part in the action as **affiliated entities (see ref. to section 5.5)**, and may declare eligible costs. For that purpose, applicants shall identify such affiliated entities in the application form.

7.3. Supporting documents proving compliance with the eligibility criteria

- The **coordinator**, who will be receiving payments on behalf of the consortium of beneficiaries and shall be **responsible for distributing payments to the co-beneficiaries**, shall provide:
 - **A duly filled Financial Identification Form (FIF)**,
Which can be downloaded from the following website:
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/financial_id/financial_id_en.cfm
It must be duly filled in and signed, and accompanied by the relevant bank statement.
- **All the applicants and any affiliated entities** (see ref. to section 5.5) shall provide the following supporting documents to establish their eligibility:

- **A duly filled and signed Legal Entity Form (LEF) accompanied by the relevant evidence (see below) of the applicant's legal status.**

A specific form in all official languages of the EU can (use of the English forms is preferred):

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/legal_entities/legal_entities_en.cfm

- In addition:
 - **private legal person(s):** extract from the official journal, copy of articles of association, extract of trade or association register a copy of the certificate of liability to VAT (if, as in certain countries, the trade register number and VAT number are identical, only one of these documents is required);
 - **public legal person(s):** a copy of the resolution, law, decree or decision establishing the public body, or as an alternative, any other official document establishing the public legal person by the national authorities may be submitted;
 - **a natural person(s):** legible photocopy of identity card and/or passport OR an official VAT document (if applicable).

For the Consortium: In addition to the above-supporting documents, each **applicant shall further submit letters confirming their participation to the project, their role in the consortium** (coordinator or co-applicant) **and the main task to be performed.**

Applicant(s) may participate in multiple applicant consortia if the actions covered in the respective Technical Proposals (B1 form) are different from each other in order to comply with the principle of non-cumulative financing and award.

8. EXCLUSION CRITERIA

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE EXCLUSION CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

Article 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142 of the Financial Regulation shall apply to applicants.

8.1. Exclusion from the participation

Exclusion criteria are specified in the standard **Declaration of Honour (A5 Form)** of this call and **all affiliated entities (see ref. to section 5.5).**

8.2. Exclusion from award

Applicants will not be granted EU funds if, in the course of the grant award procedure, they:

- are in an exclusion situation established in the A5 form;
- have misrepresented the information required by the GSA as a condition of participation in the grant award procedure or fail to supply this information upon request by the GSA;
- were previously involved in the preparation of the call for proposal documents where this entails a distortion of competition that cannot be remedied otherwise.

Administrative and financial penalties may be imposed on applicants that are guilty of misrepresentation.

8.3. Supporting documents proving compliance with exclusion criteria

All applicants and any affiliated entities (see ref. to section 5.5) must sign and submit a Declaration of Honour (A5 Form).

Please note that according to this **A5 Form**, the successful applicants may be required to send a number of supporting documents related to aspects of the Declaration of Honour before the respective grant agreement can be signed. Collecting these supporting documents may take some time and applicants shall ensure their timely availability for performing this requirement accordingly. Applicants shall approach the GSA in due time in case they are of the opinion that certain points of the declaration are not applicable to them (e.g. due to their legal structure).

9. SELECTION CRITERIA

APPLICATIONS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA SET OUT IN THIS SECTION.

9.1. Financial capacity

Applicants must have stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain their activity throughout the period during which the action is carried out. The applicants' financial capacity will be assessed on the basis of the following supporting documents to be submitted with the application by each applicant and affiliated entity (thresholds shall apply to each applicant):

- a) Total grant amount < EUR 750 000:
 - a declaration on their honour and,
 - the table provided for in the application form (A6 Form), filled in with the relevant statutory accounting figures, in order to calculate the ratios as detailed in the form. For newly created legal persons, a business plan might replace the above documents.
- b) Total grant amount \geq EUR 750 000, in addition to the above:
 - an **audit report** produced by an approved external auditor, where it is available, and always in cases where a statutory audit is required by Union or national law, certifying the accounts for up to the last three available financial years. In all other cases, the applicant shall provide a self-declaration signed by its authorised representative certifying the validity of its accounts for up to the last three available financial years.

On the basis of the documents submitted, if the GSA considers that financial capacity is not satisfactory and in any other case the GSA may deem it appropriate, it may:

- request further information;
- propose a grant agreement without pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement with a lower percentage of a pre-financing;
- propose a grant agreement with a pre-financing covered by a bank guarantee;
- reject the application.

The verification of the financial capacity **shall not apply to:**

- natural persons in receipt of education support;
- natural persons most in need, such as unemployed persons and refugees, and in receipt of direct support;
- public bodies, including Member State organisations;
- international organisations;
- persons or entities applying for interest rate rebates and guarantee fee subsidies where the objective of those rebates and subsidies is to reinforce the financial capacity of a beneficiary or to generate an income;
- low value grants

9.2. Operational capacity (B2 Form)

The applicant consortia shall demonstrate a balanced expertise in areas like development, integration, testing, manufacturing, distribution of GNSS components, GNSS chipsets/receivers and/or providing expertise in the field of GNSS R&D.

Applicants must show they have the **operational (technical and management) capacity** to complete the activities to be supported by this Call for Proposal and must **demonstrate their capacity to manage the activities** corresponding to the size of the project for which the grant is requested.

In particular:

- The team responsible for the activities must have an eminent technical competence;
- Applicants must have a high degree of specialisation in areas relevant to the activities subject to the proposal;
- Applicants must have relevant experience in design, development and industrialisation of GNSS receivers and related technologies;
- Applicants must prove that they have at their disposal technical infrastructures (relevant design and validation tools and/or hardware/software tools) necessary to perform the implementation.

In this respect, applicants have to submit in B2 Form, the following elements:

- description of the profile of the individuals¹⁴ primarily responsible for managing and implementing the activities;
- description of the technical equipment, tools or facilities at the disposal of the applicant;
- description of the role of each applicant (coordinator, co-applicants and affiliated entities) in the organisational structure in general and regarding the performance of activities subject to the grant agreement.

In the case of affiliated entities (see ref. to section 5.5) taking part in the project, the above requirements apply to each affiliated entity.

10. AWARD CRITERIA

Eligible applications will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria. When assessing the below award criteria, the evaluation committee shall use the elements indicated below for each criterion.

AWARD CRITERIA AND KEY ELEMENTS LIKELY TO BE ASSESSED BY THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE	MAX. SCORE
Relevance of the proposal to achieve the objectives of the call, credibility of the proposed approach, and innovation of the solutions proposed:	40
<i>Relevance and quality of the methodology for application(s) / area of applications identification and selection (preliminary version of deliverable as requested in Sec 2.5)</i>	10
<i>Relevance and quality of the methodology for requirements identification, design, development and testing of the device/technology presented (as requested in Sec 2.5)</i>	10
<i>Overall quality of the proposal in terms of completeness, level of detail and innovation.</i>	20

¹⁴ To highlight the relevant competencies for this Call for Proposal please use the Europass CV template which can be accessed from: <https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/de/documents/curriculum-vitae/templates-instructions>

Impact in terms of economic and public benefits derived from the proposal including but not limited to a coherent business plan for the exploitation of the results of the grant:	20
<i>Maximisation of the benefits to citizens by the proposed adoption of the results in the market</i>	10
<i>Effectiveness, coherence and viability of the (i) business plan; (ii) entry market strategy for the exploitation of the results of the grant (preliminary version of deliverable)</i>	10
3. Credibility and effectiveness of the dissemination plan for the results of the grant in the best interest of the European Union:	10
<i>Appropriateness of the methodology of the dissemination plan (preliminary version of deliverable as requested in Sec 2.5)</i>	5
<i>Impact of dissemination plan to attract visibility of results towards stakeholders</i>	5
4. Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including complementarity of the participants within the consortium (in case of multi-beneficiary) and appropriateness of the allocation of tasks and resources:	30
<i>Appropriateness of the innovation management structures and procedures, including risk and management</i>	15
<i>The coherence of the work plan in terms of activities' definition, schedule, tasks, effort and cost, including justification of the resources to be committed</i>	15
Maximum total score	100

If a total score lower than **60** points or a score lower than **60%** for any of the above four criteria is obtained, the proposal will not be evaluated further and will be rejected.

11. LEGAL COMMITMENTS¹⁵

Applicants are reminded:

The successful applicants shall be bound by the Special and General Conditions of the draft grant agreement. Submission of a grant application (proposal) by the consortium implies the acceptance of these Special and the General Conditions. This also includes the obligation of the provision of accurate, sincere and complete information within the context of this grant procedure including but not limited to filling out the provided forms with true, correct and complete data representing the real status of the applicant.

In the event of a grant awarded by the GSA following this call, a grant agreement drawn up in euro and detailing the conditions and level of funding will be sent to the coordinator of the consortium, alongside a description of the procedure in view to formalise the obligations of the parties.

The coordinator, representing the awarded consortium, on the basis of duly provided powers of attorney (Mandate – Annex IV of the grant agreement) shall sign 2 (two) copies of the original agreement and shall then return it to the GSA for countersignature.

In case the GSA requests the below documents¹⁶ to be made available and if these are not submitted within the relevant deadlines, the GSA reserves the right to cancel the award and/or the grant agreement signature process and re-allocate the budget. These documents being:

¹⁵ Articles 180 and 201 of the Financial Regulation

¹⁶ Please refer to section 8.3

- (1) Submission of all supporting documents pertaining to the Declaration of Honour (A5 form) for each co-applicant (and affiliated entity if the case may be) in due time upon request by GSA after the receipt of such request;
- (2) Submission of the signed grant agreement by the coordinator with authorization (i.e.: Mandate - Annex IV of the grant agreement) for each co-applicant at latest 1 (one) month after the coordinator's receipt of the grant agreement for the signature process.

Applicants are reminded to start immediately the collection of the supporting documents for the relevant points in the Declaration of Honour upon GSA's request, bearing in mind that particularly for large consortia, the collection of documents may be very time-consuming.

12. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

When preparing their proposal, applicants shall observe the elements described in the following subsections for calculating the required budget for the implementation of their project.

12.1. General principles

Non-cumulative award

Each action may give rise to the award of only one grant from the budget to anyone applicant.

In no circumstances shall the same costs be financed twice by the European Union budget.

Applicants have to inform the GSA immediately of any multiple applications and multiple grants relating to the same action. The applicants shall inform about sources and amounts of EU funding received or applied for the same action or for part of the action. Applicants shall indicate if they receive EU funding for their functioning during the financial year in which the action takes place.

Non-retroactivity

No grant may be awarded for actions already completed.

A grant may be awarded for an action which has already begun, provided the applicant can demonstrate the need to start the action before the grant agreement is signed. In such cases, costs eligible for financing may not have been incurred prior to the date of submission of the grant application.

Co-financing

Grants shall involve co-financing, which implies that the resources necessary to carry out the action shall not be provided entirely by EU contribution. EU financing may not cover 100% of the total costs of the action.

Co-financing of the action may take the form of:

- the awarded beneficiary's own resources,
- income generated by the action,
- financial contributions from third parties.

Co-financing may also take the form of in-kind contributions from third parties, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties to the awarded consortium as the corresponding costs are not eligible.

No-profit rule

EU grant may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit within the framework of the action or the work programme of the beneficiary¹⁷.

For this purpose, **profit is defined as a surplus of the receipts over the eligible costs incurred by the beneficiaries**, when the request is made for payment of the balance. Where such a surplus occurs, the GSA is entitled to recover the percentage of the profit corresponding to the EU contribution to the eligible costs actually incurred by the beneficiaries to carry out the action.

Balanced budget¹⁸

The estimated budget of the action is to be attached in excel format to the application form following the model provided in the Form C1.

It must have revenue and expenditure in balance. The amounts must be expressed in **euro** with maximum two decimals.

Applicants (and affiliated entities) with general accounts in a currency other than the euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into euro at the average of the daily exchange rates published in the C series of *Official Journal of the European Union*, determined over the corresponding reporting period (available at <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/exchange/eurofxref/html/index.en.html>).

If no daily Euro exchange rate is published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* for the currency in question, conversion must be made at the average of the monthly accounting rates established by the Commission and published on its website determined over the corresponding reporting period.

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro_en.cfm

Applicants and affiliated entities with general accounts in Euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into Euro according to their usual accounting practices

For awarded projects, the final payment will be based on the final financial report at the end of the project and support documents, considering any previous pre-financing and interim payment.

Financial support to third parties

The applications for this action may not envisage provision of financial support to third parties.

12.2. Funding form

GSA grants are calculated on the basis of a detailed estimated budget indicating clearly the costs that are eligible for EU funding. The grant amount may neither exceed the eligible costs nor the amount requested. Amounts are indicated in euro.

➤ **Maximum amount requested**

The EU grant is limited to a maximum co-funding rate of 70% of eligible costs incurred in the implementation of the specific actions considering the maximum grant amount referred to in section 4.

Consequently, part of the total eligible expenses entered in the estimated budget must be financed from sources other than the EU grant.

¹⁷ The no-profit principle shall not apply to actions indicated in Article 192 (3) of the Financial Regulation.

¹⁸ Article 196 (1) e) of the Financial Regulation

➤ **Eligible costs of the grant**

Eligible costs are costs actually incurred by the beneficiary of a grant which meets all the following criteria:

- ✓ they are incurred during the duration of the action, as indicated in the grant agreement, with the exception of costs relating to the preparation of the final reports and audit certificates;
- ✓ they are indicated in the estimated budget of the action;
- ✓ they are necessary for the implementation of the action, in accordance with the description of the action, attached to the grant agreement;
- ✓ they are identifiable and verifiable, in particular being recorded in the accounting records of the beneficiary and determined according to the applicable accounting standards of the country where the beneficiary is established and according to the usual cost accounting practices of the beneficiary;
- ✓ they comply with the requirements of applicable tax and social legislation;
- ✓ they are reasonable, justified, and comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency.

The beneficiary's internal accounting and auditing procedures must permit direct reconciliation of the costs and revenue declared in respect of the action/project with the corresponding accounting statements and supporting documents.

The same criteria apply to the affiliated entities.

Please note that the exact scope of the eligibility of costs is defined in the grant agreement, which will be signed by the successful applicant(s).

➤ **Eligible direct costs**

The eligible direct costs for the action are those costs which, **with due regard for the conditions of eligibility set out above**, are identifiable as specific costs directly linked to the performance of the action.

When preparing the proposal, applicants shall observe the elements described in the following sub-sections for calculating the necessary budget for the implementation of their project. The following categories of costs can be considered as **eligible direct costs**:

1. **Personnel costs** are:
 - 1.1 cost of personnel working under an employment contract
 - 1.2 costs of natural persons working under a contract with the beneficiaries other than an employment contract
2. **Other direct costs** are:
 - 2.1 cost of travel and related subsistence allowances
 - 2.2 costs for equipment and other assets specifically procured for the action
 - 2.3 costs for equipment or other assets not procured specifically but directly used for the action – depreciation costs

- 2.4 the costs for rental or lease of equipment or other assets
- 2.5 the cost of using technical facilities or laboratories
- 2.6 costs of consumables and supplies
- 2.7 costs arising directly from requirements imposed by the grant agreement
- 2.8 costs entailed by subcontracts
- 2.9 costs of financial support to third parties [not-applicable]
- 2.10 duties, taxes and charges

1. Personnel costs

- 1.1 the **costs of personnel** working under an employment contract with the beneficiaries or an equivalent appointing act and assigned to the action (including civil servants and other personnel of national administrations to the extent that they relate to the cost of activities which the relevant public authority would not carry out if the project concerned were not undertaken), comprising actual salaries plus social security contributions and other statutory costs included in the remuneration, provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiaries' usual policy on remuneration. Those costs may also include additional remunerations, including payments on the basis of supplementary contracts regardless of the nature of those contracts, provided that they are paid in a consistent manner whenever the same kind of work or expertise is required, independently from the source of funding used;

Personnel costs must be calculated by the applicants/beneficiaries as follows:

{(Hourly rate multiplied by a number of actual hours worked on the action), plus for non-profit legal entities: additional remunerations to personnel assigned to the action}.

The total number of hours declared in EU or Euratom grants, for a person for a year, cannot be higher than the annual productive hours used for the calculations of the hourly rate. Therefore, the maximum number of hours that can be declared for the grant are:

{Number of annual productive hours for the year minus the total number of hours declared by the beneficiaries, for that person for that year, for other EU or Euratom grants}

The 'hourly rate' is calculated as follows:

{actual annual personnel costs for the person divided by the number of annual productive hours}

The beneficiaries must use the annual personnel costs and the number of annual productive hours for each financial year covered by the reporting period concerned. If a financial year is not closed at the end of the reporting period, the beneficiaries must use the hourly rate of the last closed financial year available.

For the 'number of annual productive hours', the beneficiaries may choose one of the following:

- (i) 'fixed number of hours': 1720 hours for persons working full time (or corresponding pro-rata for persons not working full time);
- (ii) 'individual annual productive hours': the total number of hours worked by the person in the year for the beneficiaries *{annual workable hours of the person plus overtime worked minus absences}*. If the contract (or applicable collective labour agreement or national working time legislation) does not allow to determine the annual workable hours, this option cannot be used;

- (iii) 'standard annual productive hours': the standard number of annual hours generally applied by the beneficiaries for its personnel in accordance with its usual cost accounting practices. This number must be at least 90% of the 'standard annual workable hours'. If there is no applicable reference for the standard annual workable hours, this option cannot be used.

'Annual workable hours' - means the period during which the person must be working, at the employer's disposal and carrying out his/her activity or duties under the employment contract, applicable collective labour agreement or national working time legislation.

For all options, the actual time spent on parental leave by a person assigned to the action may be deducted from the number of annual productive hours.

Important:

Activities that cannot be deducted for the calculation of the annual productive hours and that cannot be charged to the project are Sales and marketing; Preparation of proposals; Administrative time (often means "unsold" time).

1.2 The **costs of natural persons working under a contract with the beneficiaries other than an employment contract** (e.g. in-house consultants) may be assimilated to such costs of personnel, provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:

- there must be a **direct contract** between the natural person (individual) and the beneficiaries;
- the natural person works under the instructions of the beneficiaries and unless otherwise agreed with the beneficiaries through a teleworking agreement, in the premises of the beneficiary;
- the result of the work belongs to the beneficiaries;
- the costs are not significantly different from the costs of personnel performing similar tasks under an employment contract with the beneficiaries; and
- The remuneration must be based on working hours, rather than on delivering specific outputs/products. (This implies that the beneficiaries must keep records of the hours worked for the action.) Costs of natural persons working under a direct contract for a beneficiary must be calculated according to the formula: hourly rate multiplied by the number of actual hours worked on the action where hourly rate:
 - a. if the contract specifies an hourly rate: this hourly rate must be used;
 - b. if the contract states a fixed amount for the services of the natural person and the number of hours to be worked: this global amount must be divided by the number of hours to be worked for the beneficiary under that contract.

2. Other direct costs

Other costs in general: **only costs of those items which are directly linked to the performance of the operation, identifiable and assigned to the action shall be considered under this heading.**

Those costs should include the costs of implementation contracts for ancillary services, goods etc. needed to carry out the project (e.g. dissemination of information, specific evaluation, translations, reproduction...), including the purchase of consumables and supplies. They do not cover contract that implies any externalisation of activities included in the action described in the proposal, which should be included as subcontracting in the relevant form.

Please note that the fact that the costs are specific to the action is the key factor that makes these costs eligible for European Union funding. More general office supplies, stamps or other stationary is comprised of the indirect costs and cannot be considered under this heading.

All documents supporting the above costs (e.g. invoices) have to be kept from the very beginning of the project. The GSA will require them to verify the request for payment validity.

2.1 costs of travel and related subsistence allowances for employees provided that these costs are in line with the beneficiaries' usual practices on travel;

Only the costs for the employee's travel and subsistence allowances can be introduced in the budget form. Travel costs of external service providers, if applicable, are to be included in their contracts.

Subscription fees to conferences or events, where relevant, should be included in **C1** form (section 2.1) Travel costs.

Reimbursement of travel costs can be requested for meetings, European conferences, etc. provided that they are in line with the usual practices of the beneficiaries and pre-approved by the GSA. The travel policy of the beneficiaries must be made in writing and apply to all business trips of the organisation. Alternatively, in the case when a beneficiary has not formalised an internal travel policy or established travel practice, they should not exceed the scales approved annually by the European Commission. These European Commission rates can be consulted on this address:

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/per_diems/index_en.htm_en

In all cases, the costs reported should comply with the principle of economy and efficiency, meaning that travelling should be performed by the most direct and most economical route;

The costs reported should comply with the following:

- travel by the most direct and most economical route;
- travel by rail: first class;
- travel by air: economy class, unless a cheaper fare can be used (e.g. Apex);
- travel by car: reimbursed on the basis of the equivalent first-class rail fare.

Flat-rate subsistence allowances cover all subsistence expenses during travel, including hotels, restaurants and local transport (taxis and/or public transport). They apply for each day of a mission at a minimum distance of 100 km from the normal place of work in the context of the project forming the subject of the grant agreement.

Please note that tips will not be considered as eligible costs.

Beneficiaries who want to declare travel costs as eligible costs of the project will have to provide the following information for each travel:

- Names or functions of the people involved;
- Journey and dates (even tentative);
- Purpose of the travel (this must refer clearly to one activity of the project);

- Subsistence costs: the total number of days of the travel x flat rate subsistence allowance (per diem) or an estimate of the real costs per day (per person);
- Cost of travel (estimation).

All necessary supporting documents, in accordance with the beneficiaries' travel policy, have to be kept from the very beginning of the project (e.g. travel tickets, boarding passes, invoices from the travel agency, etc.) The GSA will require them to verify the validity of the request for payment. For the per diem allowances, no supporting documents are required; only a declaration of the applicant on the applicable per diem in its organisation is needed.

2.2 **for equipment and other assets** (new or second-hand) **procured** specifically for the action and in accordance with Article II.10 of the grant agreement:

a) **the full purchase costs** provided that they are treated as capital expenditure in accordance with the tax and accounting rules applicable to the beneficiaries and are recorded in the fixed assets account of its balance sheet OR the purchase in itself is the purpose of the action [**not-applicable to this call**]

or

b) **the respective depreciation costs** provided that the asset has been purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to implementation contracts and that it is written off in accordance with the international accounting standards and international financial reporting standards, IAS/IFRS, regardless whether the beneficiary has to apply them or otherwise has diverging accounting practices.

2.3 **costs for equipment or other assets** (new or second-hand) not procured specifically but **directly used** for the action in **proportion to the usage for the action and only during its duration as depreciation costs** recorded in the accounting statements of the beneficiaries over the period of implementation of the action, provided that the asset is written off in accordance with the international accounting standards and the usual accounting practices of the beneficiaries.

Only depreciation for equipment which is strictly necessary for the purposes of carrying out the action can be charged as direct costs. This thus excludes any computer equipment, office material, furniture, etc. that the applicant needs for his daily activities and that will be normally covered by indirect costs.

Only the portion of the equipment's depreciation corresponding to the duration of the project and the rate of actual use for the purposes of the project can be considered by the GSA.

2.4 **the costs for rental or lease of equipment or other assets only to the portion of use and limited to the duration of the action**, provided that these costs do not exceed the depreciation costs of similar equipment or assets and are exclusive of any finance fee;

2.5 when **using technical facilities or laboratories the above rules (2.2) to (2.4) for eligibility of costs apply accordingly**;

2.6 **costs of consumables and supplies**, provided that they are purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to the award of contracts necessary for the implementation of the action and are directly assigned to the action;

2.7 **costs arising directly from requirements imposed by the grant agreement** (dissemination of information, specific evaluation of the action, audits, translations, reproduction), including the

costs of requested financial guarantees, provided that the corresponding services are purchased in accordance with the conditions applicable to the award of contracts necessary for the implementation of the action;

- 2.8 **costs entailed by subcontracts**, concluded for the externalisation of specific tasks or activities which form part of the action **as described in the proposal**, provided that the conditions applicable to implementation contracts are met;

Please refer to Section 5.6 for further details.

- 2.9 **costs of financial support to third parties** within the meaning of Article II.12 of the grant agreement provided that the conditions laid down in that article are met [**not-applicable to this call**];

- 2.10 **duties, taxes and charges** paid by the beneficiaries, notably non-deductible value added tax (VAT), provided that they are included in eligible direct costs, and unless specified otherwise in the Agreement. In particular, **ONLY** non-deductible VAT is eligible, except for the activities which the beneficiaries that are public bodies engage in as public authorities (prerogatives of public powers under national law).

➤ **Eligible indirect costs**

A **flat-rate amount of 7% of the total eligible direct costs of the action excluding subcontracting costs¹⁹ is eligible under indirect costs**, representing the beneficiary's general administrative costs which can be regarded as chargeable to the action/project.

Indirect costs may not include costs entered under another budget heading.

Indirect costs are not eligible for beneficiaries that receive an operating grant.

➤ **Non-eligible costs**

In addition to any other costs which do not fulfil the conditions set out above, the following costs shall not be considered eligible:

- a. return on capital or return generated by an investment;
- b. debt and debt service charges;
- c. provisions for future losses or debts;
- d. interest owed;
- e. doubtful debts;
- f. currency exchange losses;
- g. bank costs charged by the beneficiary's bank for transfers from the Agency;
- h. costs declared by the beneficiaries in the framework of another action receiving a grant financed from the EU budget (including grants awarded by a Member State and financed from the EU budget and grants awarded by the European Commission or other EU bodies than the GSA for the purpose of implementing the EU budget); in particular, indirect costs shall not be eligible under a grant for an action awarded to a beneficiary which already receives an operating grant financed from the EU budget during the period in question;
- i. contributions in kind from third parties;
- j. excessive or reckless expenditure;

¹⁹ Indirect costs = 7% * (total eligible direct costs - subcontracting)

- k. deductible VAT;
- l. participation by any staff of the European Union institutions in the action
- m. costs incurred during the suspension of the implementation of the action;
- n. cost categories explicitly excluded in the work programme/call.

Calculation of the final amount of the grant

The draft grant agreement annexed to this Call for proposals specifies the calculation of the final grant and the payment arrangements. Applicants' attention should particularly focus on the General Conditions of the draft agreement, where the eligibility conditions of costs are described. The EU grant may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit²⁰ within the framework of the action.

The final amount of the grant to be awarded to the consortium is established after completion of the action and upon approval of the request for payment containing the following documents²¹ *[including relevant supporting documents where appropriate]*:

- a final report providing details of the implementation and results of the action;
- the final financial statement of costs actually incurred,
- *[where applicable, a certificate on the financial statements of the action and underlying accounts²²].*

The authorising officer may also waive the obligation to provide a certificate of the financial statements and underlying accounts where an audit has been or will be directly done by the GSA's own staff or by a body authorised to do so on its behalf, which provides equivalent assurances about the costs declared.

12.3. Payment arrangements

Arrangements for pre-financing payment corresponding to 20% of the grant amount will be further detailed in the grant agreement (see ref. to Article I.5.2).

An interim payment shall be paid to the coordinator (who receives it on behalf of the consortium) and is intended to cover the consortium's expenditure on the basis of a request for payment when the action has been partly carried out.

The interim payment must clear 50% of the amount of the pre-financing payment previously made. The interim payment shall not exceed 60% of the maximum grant amount. The cumulative amount of pre-financing and of the interim payment altogether must not exceed 80% of the *maximum amount of the grant*.

Payment	Amount	Reporting period	Note
Pre-financing payment	30%	N/A	
Interim payment	max 40%	Critical Design Review	Based on the actual requested contribution (i.e. actual expenditure).
Final payment	min 30%	Final Review (FR)	

²⁰ See reference to Section 12.2 of this Call for Proposal.

²¹ Art. 131, 202 and 203 of the Financial Regulation

²² Art. 203 (4) of the Financial Regulation

The GSA will establish the amount of the final payment to be made to the mono-beneficiary or the coordinator (who receives it on behalf of the consortium) on the basis of the calculation of the final grant amount (see section 12.2 above). If the total of earlier payments is higher than the final grant amount, the consortium (represented by the coordinator) will be required to reimburse the amount paid in excess by the GSA through a recovery order²³.

Please refer to the grant agreement for the terms and conditions of the payment arrangements (see ref. to Article I.5).

12.4. Pre-financing guarantee

A pre-financing guarantee for up to the same amount as the pre-financing may be requested, on a case by case basis, in order to limit the financial risks linked to the pre-financing payment. The financial guarantee, in euro, shall be provided by an approved bank or financial institution established in one of the Member State of the European Union. When the beneficiary is established in a third country, the authorising officer responsible may agree that a bank or financial institution established in that third country may provide the guarantee if he considers that the bank or financial institution offers equivalent security and characteristics as those offered by a bank or financial institution established in a Member State. Amounts blocked in bank accounts shall not be accepted as financial guarantees.

The guarantee may be replaced by a joint and several guarantee by a third party or by a by an irrevocable and unconditional joint guarantee of the beneficiaries of an action who are parties to the same grant agreement.

The guarantee shall be released as the pre-financing is gradually cleared against interim payments or payments of balances to the beneficiary, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the grant agreement.

13. PUBLICITY

13.1. By the Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries must clearly acknowledge the European Union's contribution in all publications or in conjunction with activities for which the allocated grants are used.

In this respect, beneficiaries are required to give prominence to the name and emblem of the GSA and of the European Union on all their publications, posters, programmes and other products realised under the grant agreement.

If this requirement is not fully complied with, the grant may be reduced in accordance with the provisions of the grant agreement.

13.2. By the GSA

The GSA will publish the following information:

- a. name of the awarded consortium and its beneficiaries;

²³ Art. 101, 115, 203 FR

- b. address of the beneficiary (legal persons) or reference to the region (natural persons);
- c. the subject of the grant agreement;
- d. amount awarded.

Upon a reasoned and duly substantiated request by the awarded consortium (represented by the coordinator), the publication shall be waived if such disclosure risks threatening the rights and freedoms of individuals concerned as protected by the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union or harm the commercial interests of the beneficiary.

14. OWNERSHIP

The ownership of the results generated by the action is specified in the grant agreement.

15. DATA PROTECTION

Any personal data that may be included in the proposals received during the present procedure will be processed in accordance with (1) the applicable rules on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies (currently Regulation (EU) 2018/1725) and (2) the modalities of the following privacy statement:

Identity of the controller and Data Protection Officer:

- **Controller:** European GNSS Agency (GSA), Head of Market and Development Department, Janovskeho 438/2 170 00 Prague 7, Czech Republic, market@gsa.europa.eu
- **Data Protection Officer:** GSA Data Protection Officer, Janovskeho 438/2 170 00 Prague 7, Czech Republic, dpo@gsa.europa.eu

Purpose of the processing:

- the management and administration of the grant procedure
- additionally and only with regard to the personal data of the awarded applicant(s), the preparation of the grant agreement

Data concerned:

- Contact information of applicants, e.g. name and last name of authorised representatives, email address, postal address, telephone numbers, company/agency/body and department, country of establishment, position
- Financial information of applicants, e.g. bank account number, IBAN and BIC codes, address of respective bank branch
- Information that may be included in CVs of experts proposed by applicants: name and last name of proposed experts, educational background, professional experience including details on current and past employment, technical skills and languages etc.
- Data related to criminal convictions and offences of: (1) members of the administrative, management or supervisory body of applicants, (2) natural persons who have powers of representation, decision or control of the applicant, (3) owners of the applicants as defined in Article 3(6) of Directive (EU) 2015/849, (4) natural persons assuming unlimited liability for the debts of the applicants, (5) natural persons who are essential for the award or the implementation of the

grant agreement; such data are collected through the submission of the declaration of honour (A5 Form)

It is specifically noted that:

- the abovementioned processing operations will not entail the processing of any special categories of personal data. If, however, an applicant submits such data at its own volition and without any specific request, it is implied that the data subject has given its consent to the processing of such data.
- the provision of personal data by the applicants is a requirement necessary to enter into the grant agreement

Legal bases: Article 5(1)(a), 5(1)(c), 10(2)(a) and 11 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725

Lawfulness of the processing:

- Article 5(1)(a): the processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest, specifically the management and functioning of the GSA through the launching of grant procedures.
- Article 5(1)(c): the processing is necessary for the performance of a contract to which the data subject is party or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract; the GSA processes the personal data of the applicants at their request (through the submission of their proposals) in order to take the necessary steps prior to enter into the grant agreement with the awarded applicant(s).
- Article 11: the processing of personal data relating to criminal convictions and offences shall be carried out only when authorised by Union law; such processing, in the form of an extract from the judicial record or declaration of honour, is explicitly foreseen in the Financial Regulation²⁴ (Articles 136-140)
- Article 10(2)(a): as explained above, in case any applicant submits special categories of data at its own volition and without any specific request, it is implied that the data subject has given its consent to their processing

Recipients of the data processed:

- a limited number of staff of the GSA managing this grant procedure
- data processors:
 - a limited number of staff of GSA contractors assisting GSA staff in the management of this grant procedure
 - a limited number of staff of GSA contractors in charge of the provision of hosting services for the GSA's servers
- bodies charged with a monitoring or inspection task in application of Union law (e.g. internal audits, Financial Irregularities Panel, European Anti-fraud Office – OLAF)
- members of the public: the winning entities will be announced to the public, which may also entail the announcement of the personal data of the representatives of such entities (e.g. name, last name)

²⁴ Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046

Information on the retention period and storage locations of personal data:

- any information pertaining to this grant procedure shall be kept for up to 7 years following the end of the year when the grant agreement(s) has been awarded as a result of the grant procedure; files may also have to be retained until the end of a possible audit if one started before the end of the above period;
- all collected data may be stored:
 - electronically on GSA servers with access control measures (i.e. one or two factor authentication) hosted by GSA contractors which are located in the EU and abiding by the necessary security provisions
 - physically in secure storage cupboards in the GSA HQ in Prague
 - electronically and physically on the servers/cupboards of the processors identified above (all of which are established in an EU Member State)

The data subjects' rights:

- Data subjects have the right of access, rectification and erasure of their personal data or restriction of processing at any time, provided that there are grounds for the exercise of this right, as per the applicable rules
- Data subjects have the right to object, on grounds relating to his or her particular situation, at any time to the processing of personal data concerning him or her. Requests shall be addressed to the GSA Market Development Department at market@gsa.europa.eu by describing the request explicitly. It is noted that pursuant to such a request, the Controller shall no longer process the personal data unless the Controller demonstrates compelling legitimate grounds for the processing which override the interests, rights and freedoms of the data subject or for the establishment, exercise or defence of legal claims
- Data subjects may obtain their personal data, submitted to the GSA, in a structured, commonly used and machine-readable format and transmit them to another controller, provided that there are grounds for the exercise of this right, as per the applicable rules
- Data subjects are entitled to lodge a complaint at any time with the European Data Protection Supervisor (<http://www.edps.europa.eu>; EDPS@edps.europa.eu) if they consider that their rights under the applicable rules on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data have been infringed as a result of the processing of their personal data by the GSA
- Only in cases where the data subjects' consent is used as the legal basis for the processing of personal data (i.e. in case they have submitted special categories of data at their own volition and without any specific request), they can withdraw their consent at any time, without affecting the lawfulness of the processing before the withdrawal

Any request for the exercise of any of the abovementioned rights shall be addressed to the GSA Market Development Department at market@gsa.europa.eu; data subjects are kindly requested to describe their requests explicitly

16. PREPARATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE PROPOSAL

Proposals shall be prepared in accordance with the areas of activities of the Call (section 2.2), with a clear definition of the roles (Form A1), demonstrating that the consortium is composed of all the necessary competencies needed to achieve the objectives of the Call (section 2.1).

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the formal requirements and by the deadline set out under section 17.

Applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the selection process.

Proposals shall be prepared along the following structure:

Administrative Proposal (A1-A6):

A1 – Proposal Overview

A2 – Proposal Summary

A3 – Coordinator profile including:

- a) Legal Entity Form (LEF) together with supporting documents as described in Section 7.3
- b) Financial Identification Form (FIF) signed by the coordinator and signed and stamped by the bank OR a bank statement relating to the bank account

A4 – Co-Applicant profile (+ LEF) together with supporting documents as described in Section 7.3

A5 – Declaration of honour

A6 – Financial capacity ratios

Technical Proposal (B1-B2):

B1 – Technical proposal (additional documents can be annexed to this form to complement the information)

B2 – Operational capacity

Financial Proposal:

C1 – Preliminary Budget

The technical proposal (B1-B2 Forms) constitutes the core of your proposal. These forms shall be submitted by and along with the various and duly completed templates provided with this call, consisting of a list of headings. It is recommended to follow this structure when presenting the technical content. The templates are designed to highlight those aspects that will be assessed against the evaluation criteria. They cover, among other things, the nature of the proposed work, the participants and their roles in the proposed project, and the impact that might be expected to arise from the proposed work. Additional information or descriptive document may be provided by applicants as an annexe.

The C1 form shall be submitted in excel (.xls) format.

The A6 form shall be submitted as both PDF (.pdf) and excel (.xls) formats. For the PDF, please fill in the A6 form in excel provided, print it, sign each sheet of the excel and create a PDF.

Overview of Forms (as presented below in the table) shall be **submitted by the applicant** (coordinator on behalf of the consortium) and every **related actor specified below is responsible to fill them duly in** (coordinator and/or co-applicants and/or an affiliated entity). The table below reflects on who has to fill out what kind of forms. Please note that actor (including the coordinator, the co-applicants and affiliated entity) has to fill certain forms as described below in the table, and this information shall be reflected in the A1 Form prepared by the single applicant/coordinator.

Responsibility / Forms	Single applicant/Coordinator	Co-applicant	Affiliated entity
A1 – A2 – A3 – B1	X		
A4		X	
A5 – A6 – B2 – C1	X	X	X
FIF and supporting docs	X		
LEF and supporting docs	X	X	X

17. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the formal requirements and by the deadline set in this section.

The beneficiaries are not allowed - in any respect - to change the scope and the content of the proposal(s), till the signature of the grant agreement. However, if there is a need to clarify certain aspects or for the correction of clerical mistakes, the GSA may contact the applicant for this purpose during the evaluation process.

The proposal may be submitted in any of the official languages of the European Union but an **English version** would be appreciated. If the proposal is not in English, the applicant should provide a translation of the full proposal or of an extract of it, in particular to the supporting documents requested, such as registry excerpts etc. Costs incurred by the applicant for providing the translation shall not be subject to reimbursement by the GSA.

The proposal shall always be submitted in a paper version (please see the important note below).

The mandatory submitted proposals shall always also contain 2 (two) copies of USB storage devices containing the full set of proposal documents in machine-readable format (standard Office 2003 and Adobe PDF 2008 or later). In case of doubt or outright divergence between the physically submitted proposal and the content provided in electronic format (on the USB-storage devices or via the platform), the physical documents shall always take precedent.

Unless notified otherwise by the GSA, the proposals (including USBs) shall be submitted by letter:

- a) either by post or by courier not later than **20/01/2020**, in which case the evidence of the date of dispatch shall be constituted by the postmark or the date of the deposit slip, to the address indicated below;
- b) or delivered by hand not later than **20/01/2020 at 17:00** Prague local time to the address indicated below. In this case, a receipt must be obtained as proof of submission, signed and dated by the GSA official who took delivery.

The GSA is open from 09.00 to 17.00 Monday to Thursday, and from 9.00 to 16.00 on Fridays. It is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays.

Proposals must be placed inside a sealed envelope. The envelope, addressed as indicated below, should be marked as follows: "**CALL FOR PROPOSALS GSA/GRANT/04/2019 – NOT TO BE OPENED**". If the self-adhesive envelope is used, it must be sealed with adhesive tape and the sender must sign across this tape.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

GSA/GRANT/04/2019

FILLING THE GAPS AND EMERGING E-GNSS RECEIVERS TECHNOLOGIES

GSA – Legal and Procurement Department

Janovského 438/2

170 00 Prague 7- Czech Republic

18. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS, AWARD AND RESERVE LIST

18.1. Evaluation of Proposals

All applications will be examined and assessed by an Evaluation Committee. The assessment of each proposal will be based on the information provided by the applicants in the proposal submitted in reply to the call for proposals. In addition, the GSA reserves the right to use any other information from public or specialist sources. The information will be assessed in light of the admissibility, eligibility, exclusion, selection and award criteria set out in the Call for Proposals.

The Evaluation Committee may ask an applicant to provide additional information or to clarify the supporting documents submitted in connection with the application, in particular in the case of evident material errors.

- At the end of the evaluation, the best proposal(s) will be proposed for the award,
- Placed on the reserve list in case of not available funding,
- Rejected, stating the reasons for rejection.

After the completion of the evaluation, applicants will be informed in writing about the results of the evaluation.

18.2. Award of the grant agreement

The GSA may decide to request the applicant(s) whose proposal has been recommended for the award by the Evaluation Committee, to make minor adaptations and/or corrections to the proposal. In that case, the applicant will receive a letter setting out the requested modifications which must stay within the limits of the request. This phase will not lead to a re-evaluation of the proposal.

A decision to reject an application can be based on the following grounds:

- the application was submitted after the closing date;
- the application is incomplete or otherwise non-compliant with the stated administrative conditions or in any other way does not comply with the eligibility criteria as set out the call for proposals;
- the coordinator or one or more co-applicants are ineligible;
- the technical capacity is considered insufficient;
- the financial capacity is considered insufficient;

- the proposal has not reached the minimum scores as indicated in the award criteria detailed in the call for proposals;
- the score obtained by the proposal is not ranked amongst the best proposals considered for the award.

The GSA's decision to reject an application is final.

18.3. Reserve list

The GSA may place proposals – which were not considered for award of the grant due to inferior score or lack of budget – on a reserve list. Should additional budgetary appropriations become available, the applicants will be informed according to their ranking on the reserve list for the potential award of the grant.

19. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- [RD.1]. COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 2008/114/EC of 8 December 2008 on the identification and designation of European critical infrastructures and the assessment of the need to improve their protection
- [RD.2]. Ionospheric Correction Algorithm for Galileo Single Frequency Users, European Commission, 2016
- [RD.3]. Signal In Space Interface Control Document, European Union, 2015
- [RD.4]. Galileo Navigation Message Authentication Specification for Signal-In-Space Testing – v1.0, European Commission, 2016
- [RD.5]. Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/224 of 8 February 2017 setting out the technical and operational specifications allowing the commercial service offered by the system established under the Galileo programme to fulfil the function referred to in Article 2(4)(c) of Regulation (EU) No 1285/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council
- [RD.6]. ECSS-M-ST-10C Rev. 1 Project planning and implementation
- [RD.7]. ECSS-M-ST-80C Risk management

20. CONTACTS

Contacts between the GSA and potential applicants can only take place in certain circumstances and under the following conditions only:

Before the final date for submission of proposals:

- At the request of the applicant, the GSA may provide additional information solely for the purpose of clarifying the nature of the call. The request cannot be made after **18/12/2019**.
- Any requests for additional information must be made in writing only to the coordinates stated below.
- The GSA may, on its own initiative, publish corrigenda in case of inaccuracy, omission or other clerical error in the text of the call for proposals.
- Any additional information including that referred to above will be published on the GSA internet page (<http://www.gsa.europa.eu/gsa/grants>) on which the call for proposals is published.

After the deadline for submission of proposals:

- If clarification is requested or if obvious clerical errors in the proposal need to be corrected, the GSA will contact the applicant provided the terms of the proposal are not modified as a result.

- If the GSA finds that the proposal, chosen for the award, could be improved by limited adaptations, in such case, these applicants will receive a formal letter setting out the proposed modifications.

Contact coordinates for the call:

GSA: Legal and Procurement Department

E-mail address: gns-grants@gsa.europa.eu

Office address: GSA, Janovského 438/2, 170 00, Prague 7, Czech Republic

REMINDER: when sending any correspondence to the GSA, please refer to the subject (of the email or of the letter) to the relevant reference number of the Call: **GSA/GRANT/04/2019** – the failure of doing so – might delay the timely response of the GSA.